

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 03305 270630Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAB-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AID-05 SCCT-01 /076 W

----- 094409

R 270530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4390

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 3305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, JO

SUBJECT: SYRIAN MEDIA TREATMENT OF JOINT SYRO-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE

REF: DAMASCUS 3260

1. SUMMARY: SYRIAN MEDIA HAS CONTINUED TO PUBLICIZE ACCORDS WITH JORDAN FOR PAST THREE DAYS. FAVORABLE FOREIGN REACTION, SYRIAN EDITORIAL COMMENT AND DETAILS OF AGREEMENTS BEING SIGNED HIGHLIGHT IMPORTANCE SYRIA ATTACHES TO IMPROVEMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. IT IS BEING ARGUED THAT RAPPROCHEMENT WILL PRODUCE BENEFICIAL RESULTS FOR PALESTINIANS. END SUMMARY.

2. PALESTINAIN RESPONSE. AL-BAATH DESCRIBED KHALID AL-FAHUM, PRESIDENT OF PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL, AS WELCOMING SYRIAN-JORDANIAN RAPPROCHEMENT. AL-BAATH AND AL-THAWRAH REPORTED AUG 25 MEETING BETWEEN ASAD AND PLO EXCOMM INCLUDING ARAFAT, FAHUM AND OTHERS WHICH REVIEWED SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAMASC 03305 270630Z

TALKS AND ASAD'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER.

3. FOREIGN RESPONSE. SYRIAN PRESS FOR PAST THREE DAYS HAS HIGHLIGHTED FAVORABLE REACTION TO SYRIAN-JORDANIAN ACCORD BY JORDANIAN, LEBANESE AND EGYPTIAN MEDIA.

4. SYRIAN RESPONSE. AL-BAATH EDITORIALIZED THAT STEPS TOWARD UNITY SHOULD NOT BE BLOCKED BY PAST IDOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. RATHER, SYRIAN-JORDANIAN COOPERATION "SHORTENS THE OPERATION OF COMPLETING THE STATE OF ARAB UNITY." ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPREME SYRIAN-JORDANIAN COMMAND "CONSTITUTES A DETERRENT FORCING THE ENEMY TO REVISE ALL HIS CALCULATIONS" AND ON ARAB SIDE COMMAND IS IMPORTANT TO PALESTINIANS IN PARTICULAR BECAUSE IT "WILL TERMINATE STATE OF OVERSENSITIVITIES, COMPLEXES AND LACK OF CONFIDENCER." ACCORD WILL SHORTLY BE PERCEIVED AS "EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT STEP" IN RESPECT TO PALESTINIAN QUESTION. YUNIS HAYDAR IN AL-THAWRAH COLUMN STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CREATION OF SUPREME POLITICAL COMMAND ABLE TO MAKE WAR-PEACE DECISIONS AT THIS TIME WHEN THOSE INVOLVED IN MIDDLE EAST QUESTION "NO LONGER HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE SOLUTIONS THEY WANT" BUT MUST ACCEPT IMPOSED SETTLEMENTS. HAYDAR ADDED THAT ROLE OF ARAB MILITARY FORCE "DOES NOT CONTRADICT THE IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL STRUGGLE OR THE IMPORTANCE OF WORK THROUGH POLITICAL MEANS TO REACH SOME SUCCESSES." HE EMPHASIZED THAT "THE ISSUES CANNOT BE DIVIDED, THE STARTING POINT OF REAL PEACE IS A GENERAL SETTLEMENT, AND ITS DEFINITE GUARANTEE IS FORCE."

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCORDS. AGREEMENT FOR ESTABLISHING SYRIAN-JORDANIAN FREE ZONE RECENTLY SIGNED IN DAMASCUS. JORDANIAN CABINET EMPOWERED JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR IN DAMASCUS TO SIGN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE EXCHANGE DOCUMENTS. PRESS REPORTED THAT JORDANIAN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE ANNOUNCED DETAILS OF CONTRACT CREATING SYRIAN-JORDANIAN INDUSTRIAL COMPANY CAPITALIZED AT 20 MILLION DINARS SHARED EQUALLY BY BOTH COUNTRIES. PRESS ALSO REPORTED PROGRESS OF SYRIAN-JORDANIAN CUSTOMS COMMITTEE TOWARD UNIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FEES ON RAW MATERIALS AND JOINT MEETING OF SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN ECONOMISTS IN AMMAN.

6. COMMENT. WHILE GIVING ALL POSSIBLE PUBLICITY TO IMPOR-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAMASC 03305 270630Z

TANCE OF SYRIAN-JORDANIAN ACCORD ON ITS OWN MERITS AND FAVORABLE REACTION TO THIS STEP AMONG PALESTINIANS AND FOREIGN MEDIA, HINTS ARE SCATTERED IN AL-BAATH EDITORIAL THAT SYRIA'S RAPPROCHEMENT WITH JORDAN IS INTENDED TO PRODUCE FALLOUT BENEFICIAL TO PALESTINIANS. WE READ THIS AS PREDICTABLE EFFORT BY SARG BOTH TO SPUR ONGOING SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN NEGOTIATIONS AND TO REMIND PALESTINIANS THAT SYRIANS ARE, AFTER ALL, ONLY ACTING IN BEST INTERESTS OF

PALESTINIANS.

MURPHY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, COMMUNIQUE, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC03305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750296-0264
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750810/aaaaaipq.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DAMASCUS 3260
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN MEDIA TREATMENT OF JOINT SYRO-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE
TAGS: PFOR, SY, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006